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June 17, 2004
Immediate Release

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Agronics, Inc. Proposes Plan to Abate Soil and Ground Water Contamination

(Santa Fe, NM) – Agronics, Inc. has submitted an abatement plan proposal to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) to address exceedances of ground water quality standards at the Agronics/Clodbuster humate mine site. The facility is located approximately eight miles south of Cuba in Sandoval County.

Past activities at the site related to the production of fertilizers have contaminated ground water in excess of the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission standards for nitrate. Previous investigation activities at the site have included the sampling and testing of water from a monitoring well and sampling and testing of soils.

The Stage 1 abatement plan proposal submitted to NMED includes removal of the sources of ground water contamination, the removal and treatment of hydrocarbons, and ground water monitoring.

The public will have an opportunity to comment on the next stage, Stage 2, of the abatement plan, which will include a proposal for cleaning up the contamination. A public notice seeking public comment and announcing the availability of the Stage 2 abatement plan proposal will be published within 30 days of the plan's receipt by the Environment Department. Public comment will be sought by NMED for 90 days after the cleanup plan's receipt. The public notice can be sent directly to interested persons who request to be on the facility mailing list.

For additional information or to get on the list, please contact Mary Ann Menetrey NMED Ground Water Quality Bureau at (505) 827-2944 or Jon Goldstein, NMED Communications Director at (505) 827-0314.

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